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Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.  
Executive Secretary

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ACTA-9

AIRGRAM

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FILE DESIGNATION

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A-20

HANDLING INDICATOR

NO.

TO : Department of State

INFO :  
DEPT PASS:

FROM : U.S. Delegation SALT, GENEVA DATE: November 27, 1972

SUBJECT : SALT MemCon

REF :

The attached SALT MemCon is to be reproduced and distributed in accordance with the memorandum to Mr. Miller, Deputy Executive Secretary, S/S, dated December 6, 1971 from Mr. Christopher, Special Assistant to the Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

Attachment:

Smith-Semenov Memcon  
November 24, 1972

COPY NO

8 SERIES B

Exempt - 1

FORM  
3-70 DS-323

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SALT TWO  
SESSION I  
A- 20

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION  
U.S. SALT DELEGATION  
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

DATE: November 24, 1972  
TIME: 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.  
PLACE: US Mission, Geneva

SUBJECT: Smith-Semenov Post-Plenary Conversation

PARTICIPANTS: US

USSR

Ambassador Gerard C. Smith  
Mr. William D. Krimer  
Interpreter  
Mr. Dimitry Arensburger,  
Interpreter

Deputy Foreign Minister V. S. Semenov  
Mr. A. V. Bratchikov,  
Interpreter

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SCC

Ambassador Smith said he had noted some overlap in the two statements delivered today concerning the Standing Consultative Commission.

Minister Semenov agreed and thought we were moving well in the direction of reaching agreement on the Commission. He said that he had noted some valuable considerations in the US statement on the subject and thought that after study Smith would find a rational element in the Soviet statement as well, which fact gave him reason to believe that both positions would contribute to a solution of this matter.

SALT Two-I Conclusion Date

Semenov thought he had heard Smith mention a date for the conclusion of the current phase of SALT Two. Smith replied he had not spoken of a specific date, but rather in general terms, that it would be desirable to conclude before Christmas. Semenov said this was acceptable to him and pointed out that in that case our work would have to be rather compact. In this same connection Smith expressed the hope that we could soon get away from the plenary format and get to work in smaller, less formal meetings, as we had done in the past. Semenov agreed that this should be possible and said he would be ready for that whenever it suited Smith's convenience.

Restraint

Smith said he had been interested in the third part of Semenov's statement on restraint. Approved For Release 2001/09/05 : CIA-RDP80T00294A000300070015-9

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He asked if Semenov could elaborate and shed more light on this subject.

Semenov said that today he had only wanted to outline this by way of principle as a matter for possible future action. However, we would have to exchange views on certain specific aspects of this principle and see what possibilities might be found. For this kind of a discussion he would believe smaller meetings to be more appropriate than plenaries.

Smith recalled that as early as November or December, 1970, Semenov had mentioned the possibility of restraint. But at that time Semenov had spoken of unilateral action rather than restraint by agreement.

Semenov said we would have to see what possibilities existed in this area. He believed that by the nature of things such possibilities did exist and that in a preliminary way it would be good for us to look for more specific things in order to see how to approach this matter. This would then give our Governments a chance to reflect on the subject. In this same connection some other specific questions could arise in the course of discussion, therefore he did not want to predetermine the scope at this point. It would be good if movement in that direction were to come from both sides, that is, in the direction of searching for solutions to these problems.

#### Resumption Date

Semenov asked if Smith had any considerations on a possible date for resumption of SALT Two.

Smith replied that he had nothing definite, but, speaking personally, he believed that a six-week interval between the two sessions should give enough time for preparation for the next phase. (Replying to a question from Semenov, Smith clarified that the week between Christmas and New Years should not be included in that six-week span since it would be difficult to get people to work during that week.) Smith expressed the reservation that administrative problems related to housing the US Delegation in Geneva might influence the US view on the timing of resumption.

#### Congressional Relations

Replying to Semenov's inquiry regarding the date of Inauguration Day and for reconvening of Congress, Smith said that Congress was scheduled to

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reconvene within the first few days of January, while Inauguration Day was January 20. He thought that Congressional discussion of SALT matters after Congress convenes would now be even livelier than it had been in the past, because some people in the various Congressional committees had formerly been skeptical about any outcome of SALT. Now that SALT One had produced concrete agreements, he thought Congressional scrutiny of SALT matters would be considerably closer than before.

Semenov expressed the view that in his country the situation was quite similar in that respect. When he and Smith had begun the negotiations three years ago, Smith rightly said that the situation and prospects were uncertain. But the two sides had managed to achieve solid results.

*W.K. 100*  
Drafted by: WDKrimer:lcb:res  
November 24, 1972

*65-10024*  
Approved by: Ambassador Gerard C. Smith

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